

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, PGOV, KS, KN

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/K - ROBERT G. RICH, JR.

1. FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE PLANS (CONF).

BOB BOETTCHER CONFIRMS THAT THE FRASER KOREA
INVESTIGATION SUBCOMMITTEE WILL HOLD ITS FIRST TWO DAYS
OF PUBLIC HEARINGS NOVEMBER 29-30. THE STAR WITNESS WILL
BE RECENT KCIA DEFECTOR SOHN HO-YOUNG. WE UNDERSTAND
CONFIDENTIALLY THAT THE TESTIMONY WILL FOCUS ON TWO
ASPECTS: 1) A KCIA 1976 ACTION PLAN FOR INFLUENCING
AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS AND INDIVIDUALS; AND 2) ALLEGED
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KCIA EFFORTS TO SUBORN FORMER KCIA STATION CHIEF KIM
YONG-UK'S EARLIER TESTIMONY BEFORE THE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE.
THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL RELEASE THE KCIA "ACTION PLAN" TO
THE PRESS AFTER ITS INTRODUCTION INTO THE TESTIMONY, BUT
THE NAMES OF AMERICAN TARGET ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS
WILL BE DELETED. EA/K WILL SEND AN OBSERVER TO THE
HEARINGS. LIVE TELEVISION COVERAGE ON PBS IS BEING

CONSIDERED, BUT MAY NOT TRANSPIRE AS THE MAJOR WITNESS
(SOHN HO-YOUNG) REFUSES TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED.

SHORTLY AFTER THE HEARINGS, A FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE
STAFF DELEGATION HEADED BY BOB BOETTCHER WILL TRAVEL TO
EAST ASIA. THEY PLAN FIRST TO GO TO JAPAN, THEN SPEND
A WEEK IN KOREA DECEMBER 10-17. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MOST
PLANNED INTERVIEWS ARE WITH AMERICANS, BUT THAT SOME
MEETINGS WITH KOREANS MAY ALSO BE HELD. THE ROKG HAS
GRANTED VISAS. TRIP COORDINATION IS BEING HANDLED
THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

2. POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL VISITOR TO NORTH KOREA (CONF).

WE RECENTLY RECEIVED AN INQUIRY FROM CONGRESSMAN
SOLARZ'S OFFICE ABOUT TRAVEL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN TOKYO
AND PYONGYANG. ACCORDING TO THE CONGRESSMAN'S STAFF,
HE MAY BE INTERESTED IN SCHEDULING A THREE-DAY VISIT TO
THE NORTH WHEN HE VISITS THE FAR EAST IN MID-JANUARY.

3. MEETING WITH VOA (LOU).

BOB RICH MET WITH THE VOA EAST ASIA DIVISION AND
THE KOREAN SERVICE STAFF FOR DISCUSSIONS ON TUESDAY OF
KOREAN-U.S. RELATIONS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS. NO ONE HAS
ANY CREDIBLE INFORMATION ON THE VOA LISTENERSHIP IN NORTH
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KOREA. VOA BROADCASTS TWO ONE-HALF HOUR KOREAN LANGUAGE
PROGRAMS ON SHORT WAVE DAILY. WE HAVE HAD NO CAPABILITY
FOR MEDIUM WAVE BROADCAST TO THE KOREAN PENINSULA
SINCE THE CLOSURE OF THE VOA TRANSMITTER ON OKINAWA.
LOCATION HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED FOR THE NEWLY FUNDED VOA
SHORT WAVE TRANSMITTER IN ASIA. LOCATION OF THIS
TRANSMITTER IN KOREA IS AT LEAST ONE POSSIBILITY BEING
CONSIDERED BY USIA, BUT CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES
HAS NOT REACHED THE STAGE OF FORMAL EXPLORATION OF THIS
OPTION.

4. "DEFECTION" OF FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER (CONF).

FORMER ROK FOREIGN MINISTER (AND AMBASSADOR TO
VIET-NAM AND THE FRG) CHOE TOK-SIN HELD A PRESS
CONFERENCE IN TOKYO NOVEMBER 18 TO ANNOUNCE HE HAD BEEN
GRANTED "ASYLUM" IN THE U.S. ACCORDING TO A REPORT
CARRIED BY THE NORTH KOREAN NEWS AGENCY, WHICH CARRIED A
COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE, CHOE JOINED
THE ANTI-ROK ORGANIZATION, "HANMINTONG", SOME MONTHS AGO.
CHOE APPARENTLY ENTERED THE U.S. IN LATE 1975; WE ARE

ATTEMPTING TO CONFIRM REPORTS THAT CHOE HAS BEEN GRANTED
PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN STATUS. VANCE

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